

OMB Number: 0625-0065.  
 Type of Request: Regular Submission.  
 Burden: 1,644 hours.  
 Number of Respondents: 60.  
 Avg. Hours Per Response: 27.4.  
 Needs and Uses: The "E" Award

Program was established by Executive Order 10978 on December 5, 1961. The "E Star" Program was authorized by the Secretary of Commerce on August 4, 1969. The Executive Order authorized the Secretary of Commerce, in cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and the heads of other Government departments and agencies, to establish procedures for the nomination and the granting of awards. The application form is the vehicle designed to determine eligibility for the award within established criteria.

**Affected Public:** U.S. firms and organization and American subsidiaries of foreign-owned or controlled corporations.

**Frequency:** Ongoing; at the wishes of the applicant.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Required to obtain an award; voluntary.

**OMB Desk Officer:** Dennis Marvich, (202) 395-5871.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution, N.W., Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent to Dennis Marvich, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: April 1, 1998.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.*

[FR Doc. 98-9215 Filed 4-7-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-FP-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Foreign Fishing Application Information

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on

proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before June 8, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Bob Dickinson, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, International Fisheries Division, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, (301) 713-2337.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

Foreign fishing activities can be authorized under Section 204 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*). Collection of application information is necessary to determine the identify of the foreign vessels seeking foreign fishing permits and the nature and scope of the fishing activities for which permits are requested. The application information is used by various entities, including the National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Coast Guard, Regional Fishery Management councils and Department of State, to determine if permits should be issued to applicants.

##### II. Method of Collection

Submission of original documents is required.

##### III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0089.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular Submission.

**Affected Public:** Businesses and other for-profit (foreign fishing companies).

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 50.

**Estimated Time Per Response:** 10 fishing permits @ 2 hours each, 40 transshipment permits @ .75 hours each.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden**

**Hours:** 50 hours.

**Estimated Total Annual Cost to**

**Public:** 0 (no capital expenditures are required).

##### IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have

practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: April 3, 1998.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 040298A]

#### Small Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Space Launch Vehicles at Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of application and proposed authorization for a small take exemption; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS has received a request from the U.S. Air Force for continuation of an incidental harassment authorization to take small numbers of marine mammals incidental to launches of Lockheed Martin launch vehicles (LMLV) at Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA (Vandenberg). Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposal to continue to authorize these takings (limited to harassment) for a period not to exceed 1 year.

**DATES:** Comments and information must be received no later than May 8, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on this application should be addressed to Michael Payne, Chief, Marine Mammal Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. A copy of this